SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE KENT CONRAD, CHAIRMAN

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Steve Posner (202) 224-7925

Contact: Stu Nagurka (202) 224-7436

STATEMENT BY SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN KENT CONRAD (D-ND) ON BUSH ADMINISTRATION REQUEST TO RAISE THE DEBT CEILING

The Bush administration's Christmas present to taxpayers is a request to raise the nation's debt ceiling. This is one of those gifts that will keep on giving. By raising the debt ceiling to pay for the President's tax cuts and his other spending, the Bush administration is wanting our children and grandchildren to pay our bills.

The President's continued insistence to make his 10 year tax cuts permanent will cost this nation another \$400 billion this decade, and \$4 trillion next decade. Where is this administration's common sense? How can it ask yet again to raise the debt ceiling and still pursue its failed economic policy of more long-term tax cuts?